ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is described that measures the angular orientation of a rotational axis to a reference line. The reference line is defined by the position of a string. The alignment device includes a collimated light source that is projected approximately perpendicular to a rotating axis. The distance between the projected collimated light beam and the reference line is observed at two or more points. The distances between the reference line and light beam are then used to compute the non-perpendicular alignment angle of the rotational axis relative to the reference line. Other objects, advantages, and contributions are set forth in the disclosing embodiments of the invention.